



Trinity Catholic  
High School

# Geography

## GCSE/EBacc

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MRS K REID

**Geography helps students to make sense of the world around them. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun!**

GCSE geography courses are a good mix of topics such as urban issues, world development, extreme environments, rivers, and hazards – to name but a few. The course will give your child the chance to get to grips with some of the big issues which affect our world, and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

GCSE geography is designed to allow a large number of topics to be studied and to provide an insight into a variety of the most important and relevant geographical issues. This diversity also allows all students to find topics they are interested and engaged in. A selection of these are described on the following slides.

# Human Geography

## Urban issues and challenges

Cities and urban areas are some of the most dynamic regions of the world. For the first time, a majority of the global population now lives in towns and cities, with the UN predicting this will increase to 75% by 2050 - highlighting the importance of studying these settlements. This topic looks at reasons why urban areas emerge and develop unevenly within and between countries and the challenges and opportunities that this creates.



## Economic development

Globally, there are large variations in economic development and standards of living between countries. This topic looks at the reasons for, and consequences of, having a 'global development gap' in addition to why such divides occur nationally such as the UK's north-south divide.



## Resource management

The demand for food, water and energy is rising across the globe, yet the supply of all of these resources is limited which can create conflicts. Technological advances allow new strategies to be used which can increase the supply of some resources, however these can be controversial such as genetically modified crops



# Physical geography

## Global ecosystems

Global ecosystems - ranging from hot arid to cold tundra environments - all have distinctive characteristics, which have led to distinctive adaptations within their plant and animal communities. Whilst these environments all provide economic opportunities such as using rainforests for logging, farming or energy, they are extremely fragile environments which require sustainable management.



## Global hazards

The Earth is 4.5 billion years old, but it is still a highly dynamic body continually undergoing changes. These changes result in the creation of a variety of hazards that pose a threat to both humans and the environment. Some of these hazards you will have already felt the effects of in the UK, such as climate change and weather hazards, whilst others occur in geographically distinct regions such as tectonic hazards and tropical storms



## Landscapes

The distinctive landscape of the UK has been gradually formed over millions of years by coastal, glacial and fluvial (river based) processes, which continue to act today. A number of physical and human factors affect the processes of erosion, weathering, deposition and transportation.





## **Studying geography**

There are so many ways of learning in geography. It is very practical, with opportunities to learn new skills such as modern computer based mapping (called GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs, fieldwork skills, presenting, role play and debating techniques. Your child will improve their literacy through their report writing and written work, and make practical use of their numeracy skills when interpreting data and constructing graphs. Fieldwork, or working outside the classroom, is a really important part of geography. We take students on a residential trip to Somerset or an alternative location in England. It will be a brilliant opportunity to experience some of the things they have learnt about in class, see things differently and of course have fun.

## Gaining transferable skills

Studying GCSE geography provides students with a variety of valuable skills and knowledge that can be transferred and used across other subject areas and in everyday life. Key skills and knowledge gained are listed below:

### Highly relevant knowledge

Your child will study issues that are extremely relevant to the challenges the world is facing today both environmentally and in wider society. This equips them with valuable knowledge for future studies.



### Looking at issues differently

Geographers uniquely tackle and investigate big issues across a variety of scales. Students will also learn how to bring together perspectives from multiple disciplines.



## Fieldwork

Fieldwork is an enjoyable opportunity to explore new environments, improving students' understanding of topics as they come to life. Fieldwork provides students with useful skills in collecting, understanding and later communicating data to different audiences.



## Teamwork

Working in teams during fieldwork and in the classroom will help develop communication and collaboration skills.

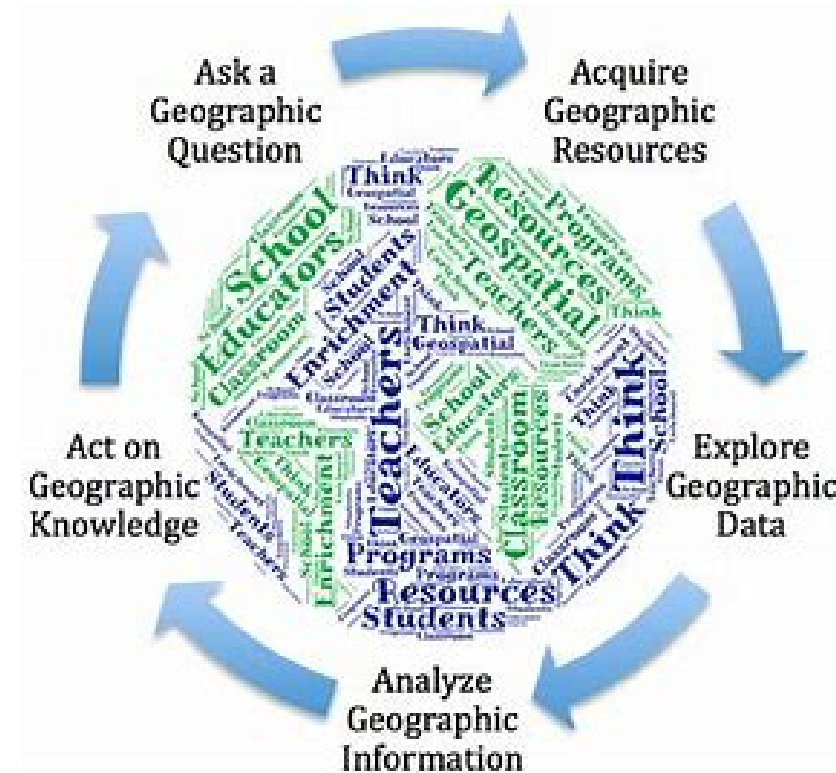


## Place knowledge

Students will develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the UK's economic, social and environmental geography.

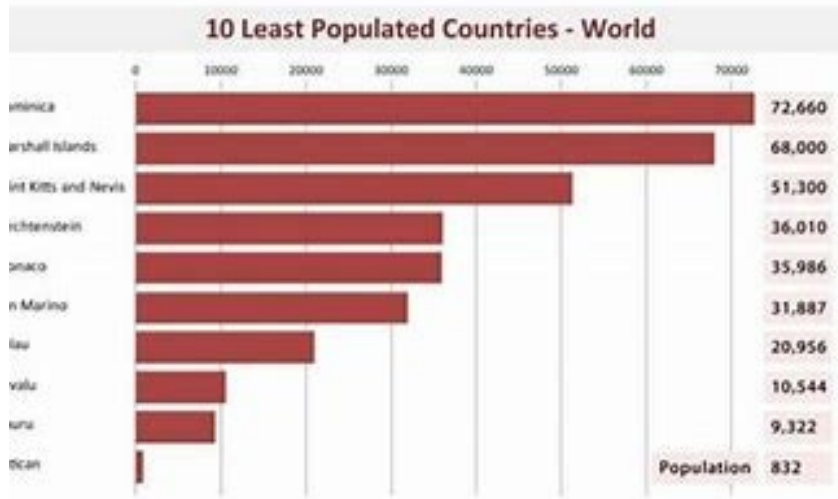
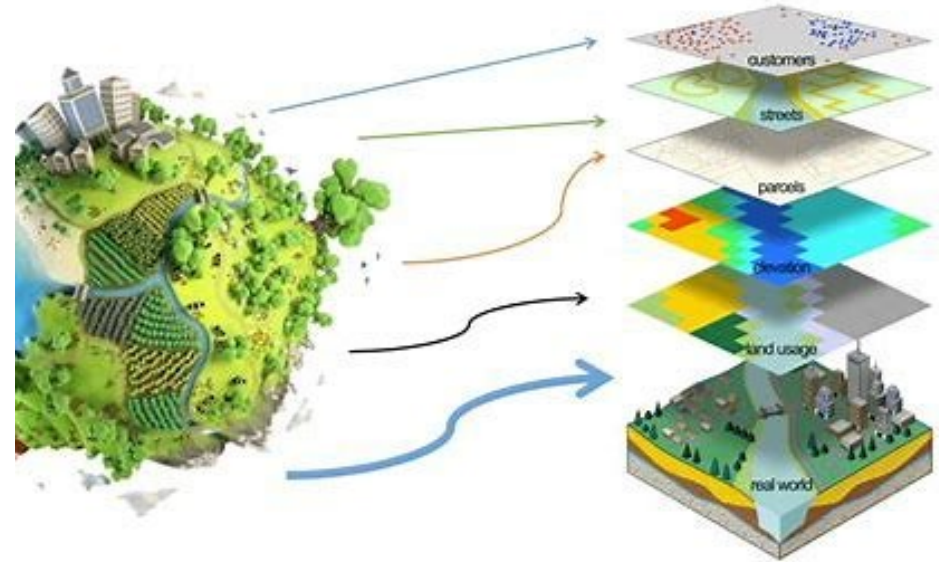
## Geographical argument

Students will gain strong research and analytical skills, helping them to produce convincing arguments and to communicate ideas effectively, which is particularly useful in all other essay-based subjects.



## Data and geospatial skills

Geography is practical and will give students opportunities to learn new skills such as computer-based mapping (GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs and fieldwork skills. It will make practical use of their numeracy skills when they interpret data and construct graphs.



## Visual communication skills

Geography gives students the opportunity to gather, analyse and present data in a variety of ways so they will also develop their visual communication skills using maps, graphs, diagrams and images to problem solve.

# Assessment

A range of question styles from longer written answers, sentence answers to multiple choice so it caters for all ability levels

Do not write outside the box

0 1 . 9 Explain how the risks of a tectonic hazard can be reduced. [4 marks]

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Extra space

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0 1 . 1 0 State **one** source of evidence for long-term climate change during the Quaternary period. [1 mark]

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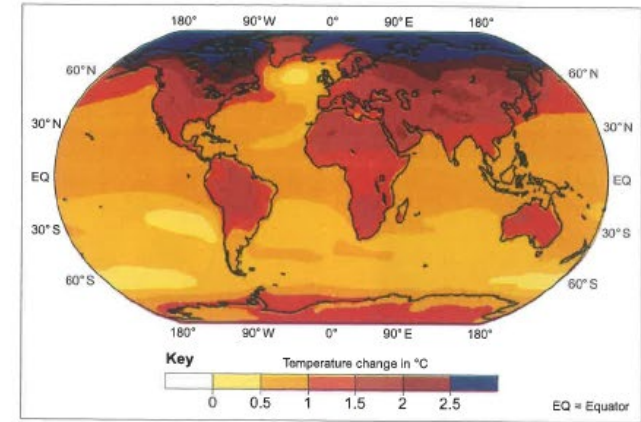
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Do not write outside the box

Study **Figure 5**, a world map showing projected global temperature change between 2000 and 2100.

**Figure 5**



0 1 . 1 1 Using **Figure 5**, which **one** of the following statements is true? [1 mark]

Shade **one** circle only.

- A The greatest increase in temperature will be along the Equator.
- B Most of Africa will have a rise in temperature of between 0 °C and 0.5 °C.
- C The oceans will show a greater increase in temperature than land areas.
- D Areas north of 60 °N will have the greatest increase in temperature.

Question 1 continues on the next page

Turn over ▶



## Geography and future careers

There has never been a more important time to use geographical knowledge and skills to pursue a career. None of the changes and challenges facing the UK and the world in the 21st century, including climate change, energy security, migration, urbanisation and globalisation, can be properly understood, let alone tackled, without geography. This is the discipline that connects the natural and the human, the local and the global and in doing so, enables us plan sustainably for the future. Whether your child's future career lies in the environmental sector, business, education, the natural or social sciences, the media, in geospatial industries or in travel, geography opens up a range of choices for their future work and career.

